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MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

MARCH 25, 2014

In the past, California was the leader in entertainment production, aerospace manufacturing, and agricultural production. However, as a result of California's excessive regulations, high taxes, and erroneous water policies, other states have successfully lured film and television production and aerospace companies from California and the Central Valley has become a dust bowl.

In the last decade, Southern California has lost more than \$3 billion in entertainment production wages and the employment rate in the entertainment industry has dropped from 152,525 to 136,380. Feature filming has dropped 50% from its peak in 1996 and television documentaries are down 39% from their peak in 2008. In 1997, every big-budget film but one was filmed at least partially in Los Angeles County -- in 2013, only two movies with production budgets higher than \$100 million filmed here at one time.

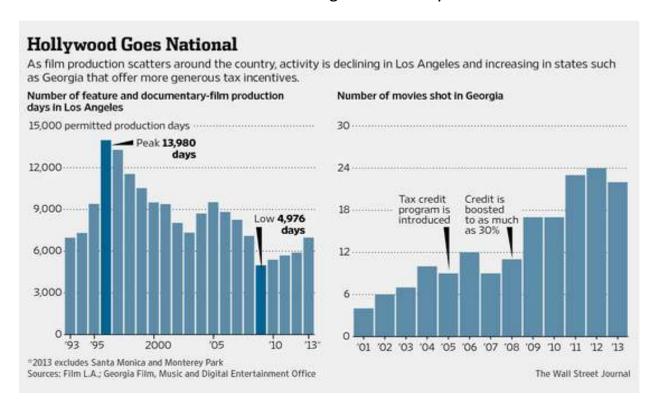
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The FilmLA graph below shows that since 1996, the number of feature-film and documentary film production days in Los Angeles has dropped by roughly 65% while the number of movies shot in Georgia has steadily increased:



Georgia and other states including Massachusetts, Louisiana, New York and North Carolina are successfully poaching production away from California by offering generous incentives. Georgia offers a 20% tax credit that led to a 300% increase in its share of top-grossing movies. The tax incentive program in Massachusetts propelled it from 18th place in film-production to 11th place in only 5 years. Louisiana's tax incentive program added 6,145 jobs in film-production between 2010 and 2012 and quadrupled its share of top grossing movies. Meanwhile, in the last 10 years roughly 16,000 Californians have left the production industry altogether. NBC recently moved The Tonight Show from the City of Burbank to New York after 42 years, costing 150 local jobs – not including electricians, carpenters, caterers, and other supporting industries that keep movie sets and their crews working.

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The Governor and the Legislature have not competed aggressively on the tax base front and the State's excessive regulations are devastating the economy.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Executive Office to send a copy of this motion and a five-signature letter to the Governor and members of the State Legislature asking that they recognize the negative impacts high taxes and excessive regulations have on the entertainment industry and provide reforms to make California competitive with other states who are successfully luring film and television production away from California;

I, FURTHER MOVE that a copy of the motion and letter be sent to our 88 City Mayors and City Managers in Los Angeles County.

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